

HO-1039

Tenant House (ruins)

1224 Crystal Ridge Road

Private

DESCRIPTION:

The ruins of the tenant house are a rubble stone foundation 16 feet, 9 inches wide by 24 feet, 8 inches long. In the center of the foundation footprint are the remains of a brick fireplace on a stone foundation, with the opening facing north. The bricks are hand-made. There is a round stone well about 7 feet from the southwest corner of the ruins, and a pit northwest of the ruins that contains nineteenth and early-twentieth century bottles, crockery, and tole ware.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The ruins of the tenant house on the hill above Henryton Road probably date to the first half of the nineteenth century, based on the brick, which is handmade, but smaller than eighteenth-century brick. This must have been a frame dwelling with two rooms down, and the height cannot be determined from what remains. Only one of the downstairs rooms was heated. The basement was probably one low room, at the south end, and was likely only accessed from the exterior. The house was part of the substantial, and significant, "Howard Lodge" (HO-13) farm owned by Theodore Mottu, of Baltimore, in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. However, just which of the numerous tracts of land that Mottu acquired is the one holding these ruins was not determinable. The site appears to hold great potential for archaeology, and this would help to date and explain the original function of the ruins.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of

### Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1039

#### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Tenant House (ruins)

#### 2. Location

street and number 1224 Crystal Ridge Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town Marriottsville X vicinity

county Howard

#### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David & Ellen Levitt

street and number 1224 Crystal Ridge Road telephone 410-489-4985

city, town Marriottsville state MD zip code 21104

#### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 7400 folio 48

city, town Ellicott City tax map 10 tax parcel 312 tax ID number

#### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	0	1 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	2	0 sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	0	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	2	1 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	previously listed in the Inventory	
				0	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1039

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### SUMMARY:

The ruins of the tenant house are a rubble stone foundation 16 feet, 9 inches wide by 24 feet, 8 inches long. In the center of the foundation footprint are the remains of a brick fireplace on a stone foundation, with the opening facing north. The bricks are hand-made. There is a round stone well about 7 feet from the southwest corner of the ruins, and a pit northwest of the ruins that contains nineteenth and early-twentieth century bottles, crockery, and tole ware.

### DESCRIPTION:

The ruins of the tenant house behind the house at 1224 Crystal Ridge Road, about two miles southwest of Marriottsville in north-central Howard County, Maryland, are located east of the house and downhill from it, and just west of a stream that roughly parallels Henryton Road. It is a wooded site that slopes down to the east. There is a rubble stone foundation that appears to be primarily sandstone with a lot of mica in it. They are 16 feet, 9 inches wide, from east to west, by 24 feet, 8 inches long. The top of the foundation is close to ground level on the north, while the ground slopes down to the south where there are two low stone walls with a doorway in the center. The southeast corner is 2 feet, 3 inches above ground. There is no clear evidence of a stone wall along the east side, and only stone debris on much of the west side. In the center of the foundation footprint are the remains of a brick fireplace on a stone foundation, with the opening facing north. The fireplace is mostly collapsed. The bricks are hand-made, but quite regular, and are 2 ¼ by 3 ¾ by 8 inches. They are laid in lime mortar. The stone base is 1 foot, 8 inches above ground level and the brick stand to 3 feet, 4 inches above ground. The ruins are partially overgrown.

There is a round stone well about 7 feet from the southwest corner of the ruins, and it has a 6-foot diameter interior.

There is a pit northwest of the ruins, though it is not clear the function of this pit. It now contains nineteenth and early-twentieth century bottles, crockery, and tole ware.

The ground to the northeast of the ruins almost appears to be terraced.

The modern house on the property was built in the late 1980s.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1039

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates N/A

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The ruins of the tenant house on the hill above Henryton Road probably date to the first half of the nineteenth century, based on the brick, which is handmade, but smaller than eighteenth-century brick. This must have been a frame dwelling with two rooms down, and the height cannot be determined from what remains. Only one of the downstairs rooms was heated. The basement was probably one low room, at the south end, and was likely only accessed from the exterior. The house was part of the substantial, and significant, "Howard Lodge" (HO-13) farm owned by Theodore Mottu, of Baltimore, in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. However, just which of the numerous tracts of land that Mottu acquired is the one holding these ruins was not determinable. The house seems not to be on the "Piney Grove" resurvey of 1831, though it was very close to it, and could have been part of "Howard Lodge" from as far back as the mid-eighteenth century. The location, on a hill, was certainly not a good one for agriculture, so the occupant of the house may have had another occupation, such as a limeburner. There are a number of lime kilns in this area, because a vein of Cockeysville marble runs through it. The circular pit above the house ruins could have been a lime kiln, but if so, much of the structure seems to have been carted away for reuse in other buildings. The site appears to hold great potential for archaeology, and this would help to date and explain the original function of the ruins.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1039

See footnotes

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 5.31 A  
Acreage of historical setting 294+ A  
Quadrangle name Sykesville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 10, parcel 312, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	October 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

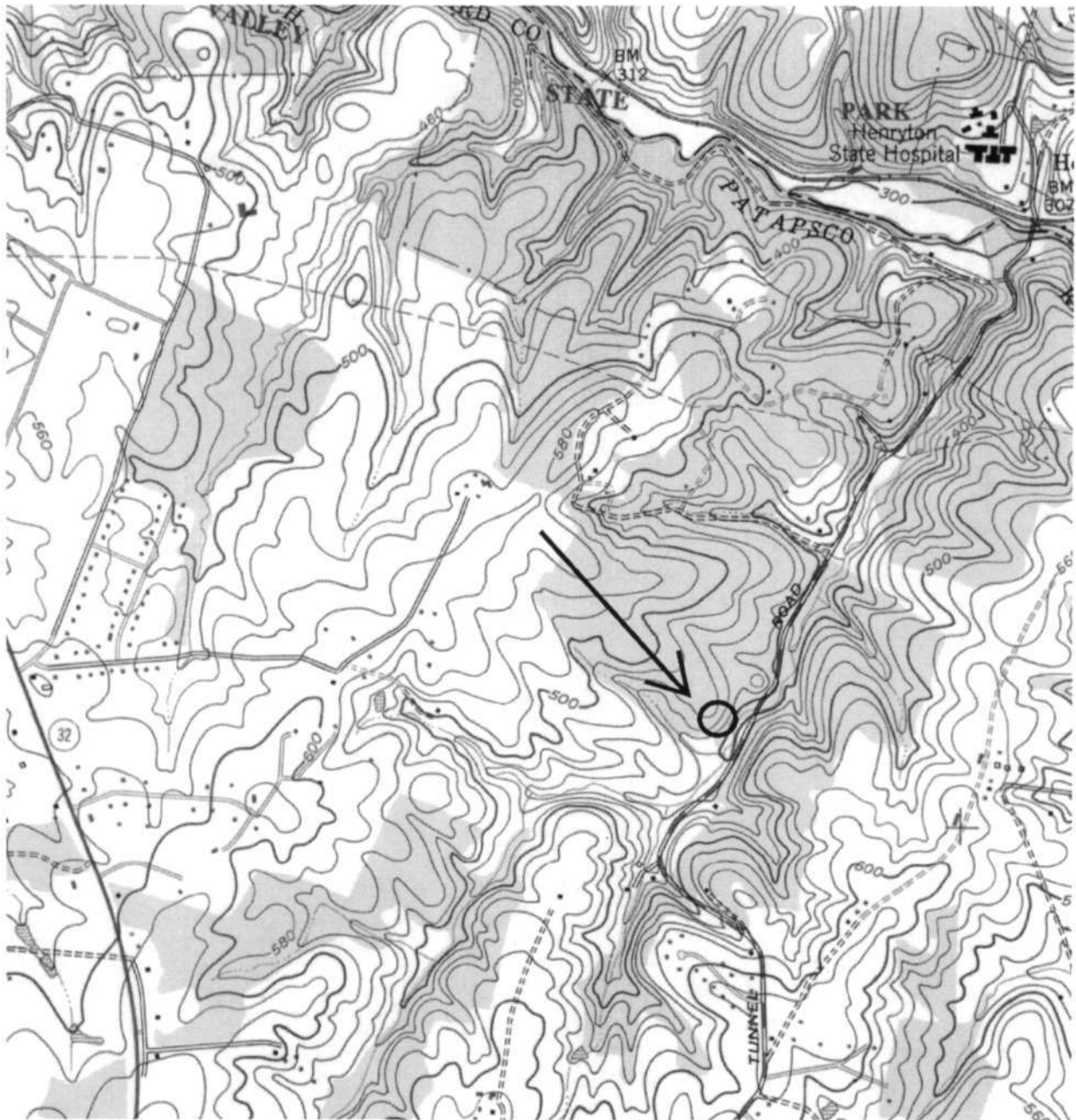
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Theodore H. & Margaret Mottu, trustees of Theodore Mottu	Charles T. Grant	9 May 1901	JHC 73-535	Deed – fee simple	\$4,570.69	409.56 A	Mottu Will, Balto City TWM 76-64, 16 Feb. 1889 On both sides of Alpha & Henryton County Rd p/o Piney Grove, Woodford 3 deeds Reserve right of way to lands still owned by trustee
John Glenn & wf Anna C. / Balto. City	Theodore Mottu / Balto. City	12 June 1876	LJW 36-534	Deed – Indenture	\$24,000	x) 935 A -18 A y) 542 A	No metes & bounds Faces on public rd from St. James to Sykesville ~ 2 mi. south of Sykesville (1)
Isabella Brown, widow of George Brown / Balto. City	Theodore Mottu / Balto. City	12 Oct. 1877	LJW 38-548	Deed – Indenture fee simple		350 A, 20 P 580 A 39 7/8 A - 35 A	[Piney Grove] (2)
Virginia Bidman / Balto. City	Theodore Mottu	31 Aug. 1881	LJW 44-489	Deed – Indenture fee simple	\$2,000	a) 18 A b) 50 1/2 A c) 4 1/4 A d) 5 1/4 A e) 1 1/8 A f) 18-2-5 ARP g) 4 3/8 A	7 tracts (3)

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Vision Builders, Inc. / MD Corp	Melvin E. & Jacqueline I. Shifflett (H/W) / ?	3 Aug. 1989	CMP 2111-125	Deed – fee simple	\$399,900	?	Lot 27 on Meadowood Plat CMP 7807 Sheet 2 of 6
Spring Hill Assocs. / MD joint venture	Vision Builders, Inc. / MD	12 Aug. 1988	CMP 1908-713	Deed – fee simple	\$94,800	?	
C. Oliver Goldsmith / Howard	Spring Hill Assocs. / MD joint venture	13 June 1983	CMP 1168-141	Deed – fee simple	\$0	5,037.3 sq. ft.	3 +A in the bed of Henryton Rd, & other rights of way
Conrad M. Hilbinger / Kaneohe, Hawaii	C. Oliver Goldsmith	17 Oct. 1969	CMP 520-1	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	281.895 A	CNH's, wf Allie May d. 12 Mar. 1962 in Honolulu
C. Oliver Goldsmith (trustee for grantee) Longwood Farm, Glenwood MD	Spring Hill Associates, joint venture agreement of 1 June 1969	16 Oct. 1969	CMP 1168-139	Deed – Poll	?	294.5 A	
Henry A & Margaret Wellings Hilbinger (H/W) / Balto. City	Conrad N. Hilbinger	22 Aug. 1953	MWB 247-329	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	294.5 A	½ interest on Henryton Rd
Honor E. Grant et al	Conrad M. Hilbinger Henry A. & Margaret Wellings Hilbinger	2 Dec. 1947	MWB 201-509	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	409.56 A Minus 91.158 A 12 1/5 A 6-0-25 ARP 5.35 A	CTG d 17 Oct. 1930 Will MFB 7-253 Written 14 Feb. 1917 Leaves property to widow for life, then kids





HO-1039  
Tenant House (ruins)  
1224 Crystal Ridge Road  
Sykesville quad



HO-1039  
Tenant House (ruins)  
1224 Crystal Ridge Road  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera  
HP Premium Plus paper  
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1039\_2011-04-29\_01  
View north

HO-1039\_2011-04-29\_02  
Fireplace ruins, from south



H0-1039  
Tenant House (ruins)  
1224 Crystal Ridge Road  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short  
2011-04-29  
MD SHPO  
View north  
1 of 2



HO-1039

Tenant House (ruins)  
1224 Crystal Ridge Road  
Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-04-29

MD SHPO

Fireplace ruins, from south

2 of 2